

**UNITED STATES COURT OF APPEALS
FOR THE SECOND CIRCUIT
THURGOOD MARSHALL UNITED STATES COURTHOUSE
40 FOLEY SQUARE
NEW YORK, NEW YORK 10007**

JOHN M. WALKER, JR.
CHIEF JUDGE

ROSEANN B. MacKECHNIE
CLERK OF COURT

December 1, 2004

For Immediate Release

Beginning December 1, 2004, the Criminal Justice Act/Pro Bono Committee of the United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, will be accepting applications for service on the Court's newly- formed Pro Bono Panel. Pro bono panel members will, at the Court's own invitation, or on an appellant's motion for the appointment of counsel, represent pro se litigants in civil appeals which present issues of first impression, complex issues of law or fact, or which raise potentially meritorious claims warranting further briefing and oral argument. Pro bono representation will be provided to those litigants whom the Court deems would benefit from such representation but who would otherwise be unable to pay for counsel and are ineligible for the appointment of counsel pursuant to the Criminal Justice Act.

Cases for which pro bono counsel will be appointed include a broad range of legal issues. While a significant percentage of the cases are prisoner civil rights appeals, many other issues may be included, such as those involving labor and employment, discrimination, social security, immigration, and tax law.

Applicants must be admitted to and members in good standing of the Bar of the Second Circuit, and have at least three years of appellate experience. Pro Bono Panel members will serve for a term not to exceed three years.

All attorneys seeking appointment to the Pro Bono Panel must submit an application (available on the Court's website <http://www.ca2.uscourts.gov/>), a resumé, and three writing samples, preferably appellate briefs on which the attorney was the primary author. Completed applications and accompanying documents must be submitted to Elizabeth Cronin, Director of Legal Affairs, United States Court of Appeals for the Second Circuit, 40 Foley Square, New York, NY 10007, by no later than Monday, January 31, 2005.